

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN MEMORY OF BRIAN O'NEILL

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of one of the grand pioneers of the National Park Service, Brian O'Neill.

Brian was a passionate and dedicated advocate for our National Parks. He served as a magnificent steward of our beloved treasure, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

The Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) encompasses 76,000 acres of land and 50 miles of shoreline within Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, and includes world-famous sites such as Alcatraz Island, Muir Woods and the Presidio of San Francisco. It is the most visited unit of our National Park System, receiving more than 20 million visitors annually, and is one of the largest urban National Parks in the world.

Brian O'Neill's leadership in our National Parks spanned more than 28 years. As General Superintendent of the GGNRA, Brian met the challenge of leadership in every measure. His enthusiasm soared to the heights of the giant redwoods of Muir Woods, his spirit of partnership spanned the Golden Gateway from Fort Point to Fort Baker, and his vision saw to the Farallone Islands and beyond.

On a daily basis, Brian inspired a staff of 425 employees, a volunteer force of over 20,000 and more than 30 major facility and program partners. Under his leadership, GGNRA has developed park operational partnerships that have served as national and international models.

Brian was a prominent figure in the transitioning of the Presidio of San Francisco from a military installation to a National Park. For more than two centuries, the Presidio stood as the Sentinel of the Golden Gate. Today, thanks to a strong public-private partnership, the Presidio has been transformed into a National Park like no other, and as a place of peaceful reflection and recreation for all people. The transformation of the Presidio from Post to Park has been exciting in its innovation, and is due in large part to Brian's leadership.

For more than a century, Fort Baker played a key role in the defense of San Francisco Bay. Today, thanks to the leadership and commitment of Brian, Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY and many others, Fort Baker offers a world-class retreat and conference center, a hands-on children's museum and learning center, and the Institute at the Golden Gate dedicated to dialog and action on global environmental issues. Ft. Baker's post-to-park transition was truly a collaborative effort that brought together the entire community—a hallmark of Brian O'Neill's leadership. Moving forward, Ft. Baker will play a key role in advancing the cause of both local and global environmental stewardship and preserving our planet for our children and the future.

Another highlight of Brian's lifetime of accomplishment was returning Crissy Field from the barren, broken asphalt of a former World War II airstrip to the historic wetlands and verdant marsh along the Presidio's window to the Bay. Crissy Field was one of the first attempts to restore historic wetlands along San Francisco Bay, and the first effort ever in San Francisco. Brian worked with Toby Rosenblatt, the Haas family and many others to bring the resources, talent and energy together in a great success that provides public recreation and environmental restoration. Today, Crissy Field serves as an example of the important alliance that can be developed between local and federal partners for the benefit of the community and for the entire National Parks system.

Brian provided leadership for the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council, the Bay Area Open Space Council, the Association for the Central California Biosphere Reserve, the San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association, the Headlands Institute, the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's California Advisory Council, the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council and the Save-the-Bay Association Advisory Council. He was a key advisor to the Department of the Interior on partnership matters.

As Phillip Burton, a goliath of our National Parks, stated when he created the law preserving GGNRA and the Presidio, "Even in a remote setting, the features of this park would be outstanding." In furtherance of Phillip Burton's vision, Brian O'Neill's enduring legacy is an outstanding National Park that is sustainable, and accessible for all to enjoy, and is a great source of pride to all of us.

My colleagues in Congress and I are deeply saddened by his passing, and are grateful for the legacy of natural beauty and cultural heritage he has left for future generations to enjoy. We will miss his enthusiasm, his spirit and his vision. I hope it is of comfort to his wife Marti, and his children Kim and Brent, that so many of us share in their loss.

JOB CREATION THROUGH ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 2352) to amend the Small Business Act, and for other purposes:

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2352, the Job Creation through Entrepreneurship Act of 2009. This legislation comes at a critical time, as small businesses across the country are struggling to access credit and make payroll.

This legislation will create new small business development programs to increase ac-

cess to credit, provide training on contract procurement and green entrepreneurship and offer additional guidance to veteran-owned small businesses veterans looking to start their own businesses upon returning home from service. This legislation will play a critical role in putting Americans back to work and helping established small businesses grow during these tough economic times.

I represent South Florida, which has 1.1 million small businesses—one of the highest concentrations of small businesses in the country. Unfortunately, in 2008, SBA loans in South Florida fell approximately 40 percent—10 percent higher the national average. I've met with countless small business owners in my district who, despite strong credit and responsible lending histories cannot access credit at a reasonable rate. These new and enhanced entrepreneurial development programs will serve as a lifeline for small business owners in my home state of Florida, and throughout the country. By providing one-on-one counseling, continued guidance and support for potential entrepreneurs and struggling small business owners, we can help our small business community weather these tough economic times, increase sales and get our economy back on track.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation,

TRIBUTE TO SAINT JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to acknowledge the St. John's Baptist Church of Scotch Plains, New Jersey on the celebration of its centennial anniversary. Established in 1909, St. John's has continuously served the needs of its congregation and the community.

Throughout the illustrious history of St. John's Baptist Church, effective leadership has been at the core of all the accomplishments the church has had. Beginning with Pastor Parson and continuing with Pastors Gatewell, Hamlett, Sweeney, Glover and the current pastor, Rev. Dr. Kelmo Curtis Porter, Jr. St. John's has made many physical enhancements over the years. In addition to its leadership, the success of all of St. John's initiatives can be attributed to the faith, hope, commitment and prayers of the loving membership that fill the pews of this landmark facility. In fact, many of St. John's congregants have been members of the church all of their lives and some are second or third generation members. Clearly, this degree of devotion is representative of the marvelous ministries taking place within the church.

A Gala being held on May 17, 2009 at Pines Manor in Edison, New Jersey in honor

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

of this important milestone will feature a variety of distinguished supporters, ministers and friends. The theme of the centennial, "100 Years Working for the Lord" celebrates the story of a church deeply rooted in faith and Christian values. Those values include integrity, caring and preaching the word of God. St. John's is blessed to have a membership that is proud of its roots, passionate about its present and hopeful for its future.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues agree that St. John's Baptist Church and the surrounding community have every right to be pleased with the lasting contributions the church has made to the residents of Scotch Plains. I am pleased to congratulate St. John's on its first 100 years.

HONORING TRUSTEE JOSEPH
DEVLIN

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph Devlin for his forty years of devoted service to the Village of Roselle. After his long service to the Village, he has announced that he plans to retire.

Joe's first experience in elected office was in 1969, when he was elected Village Trustee. He served as Mayor from 1973–1981, and then returned to his post as Trustee from 1981 to 2009.

Through the years, Joe has been an insightful observer, keen in his understanding of the long-term challenges facing the Village. Throughout his career, he has tackled challenges with deft skill, deep understanding, and strong personal integrity.

While Roselle has gone through many changes over the years, one thing has remained the same. Trustee Devlin has kept a steady hand to the wheel, working tirelessly for the benefit of his community.

Joseph Devlin has been an advocate for the people of Roselle since his very first days in office. He has affected countless lives, and left an indelible impression on Roselle and its residents.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, Joseph Devlin is a remarkable man who has dedicated his life to serving the people of Roselle. Please join me in honoring him for his extraordinary career.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HON-
OREES OF THE LEXINGTON
DEMOCRATIC CLUB

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the honorees of the Lexington Democratic Club's Annual Dinner and its 60th Anniversary celebration. At its 60th Anniversary celebration at the Yale Club in Manhattan, the Lexington Democratic Club is honoring its living former Presidents, State Committee Members, and District Leaders.

As the first political club dedicated to reform in New York City, the Lexington Democratic

Club has sought to increase inclusive civic participation, promote transparent, open government, and support the merit-based selection of judges. Its leaders reflect the best ideals of the Club and have devoted their volunteer efforts to supporting the Club's proud mantle of reform.

Among those being honored are Ann Pinciss Berman, Joanne Bing, Jonathan L. Bing, John Bradley, William Bryk, Reita Cash, David L. Cohen, Pat Falk, Conrad Foa, Neil V. Getnick, Brenda Goodman, Zachary R. Greenhill, Roger Grimble, Paul Hellegers, Russell Hemenway, Nikki Henkin, Bernard E. Jacob, Barbara Kloberdanz, Richard Lane, Heather K. Leifer, Robert J. Levinsohn, Andrew Lowenthal, Robin Marsico, Trudy L. Mason, Gail Melhado, John K. Mills, Jane Lowe Parshall, Peter Philip, Robert Plautz, Warrie Price, Joanne Pugh, Lawrence M. Rosenstock, Marjorie Sachs, H. Richard Schumacher, Felice Shea, Diane Staab, Michael Stolz, Alexander M. Tisch, David Tyson and Roger Waldman. Many of these individuals went on to win political office, to be elected as judges or to take on other roles in public service. All of them care deeply about the community and have worked to make New York City a better place to live.

Throughout its storied, sixty-year existence, the Lexington Democratic Club of New York City has proudly carried the banner of reform and good government. It is fitting that, as the Club celebrates the conclusion of its sixth decade, its members honor those civic and political leaders who were inspired by its noble ideals and who worked with such dedication and energy to effect them.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me recognizing the significant contributions to our civic and political life made by the 2009 honorees of the Lexington Democratic Club of New York City.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained yesterday and missed roll-call vote 279. If present, I would have voted "yea."

IN HONOR OF STUDENTS OF HAR-
VARD ELLIS TECHNICAL HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the gifted students of my district from the Harvard Ellis Technical High School of Danielson, Connecticut. On May 15, 2009, the students won awards at the 6th Annual Plastics Expo held at Quinebaug Valley Community College, QVCC, in Danielson, Connecticut. The expo paired teams of students from six area high schools with representatives from local plastics companies. This is the second time that Ellis THS has en-

tered the competition. Over six months, they worked with their company team of WEB Industries Hartford, Inc., manufacturer of film products, to design, create, test, and market a product using the company's technology.

They won for their product, the "Eagle Air," a filter screen that uses three layers of plastic screening to filter out the smallest particles of pollen in the air. The device is translucent and can be adjusted to fit any window. Their presentation included a PowerPoint, prototype models, a video commercial, and a detailed book describing their process.

The students won both the "People's Choice Award" and the "Judges' Award." The People's Choice Award was determined by the vote of the audience and the Judges' Award was determined by a team of three judges chosen for their expertise in engineering, design, and marketing. Team members included Andrew Conkey, Abigail Corcoran, Victoria LaMonda, Sara Rondeau, Cameron Fisher, Elana Shong, Holley DeParasis, Nicole Carlson, and Justin Fortier. The group leaders were Kathy Burr and Laura Burke. The team MVP was Nicole Carlson. The Department of Commerce, Quinebaug Valley Plastics Institute, and the QVCC College Career Pathways Program supported the event to promote workforce development.

Madam Speaker, I am proud and pleased to honor these nine students and their team leaders for their innovative creation, sound business practices, and teamwork. These students have a bright future and signal that eastern Connecticut is a place for research, technology, and product development. I also commend the efforts of the sponsors of the Annual Plastics Expo in building partnerships between students and local businesses, and in promoting excellence in trade and technology. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in recognizing these contributions.

HONORING COACH EDWARD
STANLEY TEMPLE

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Edward Stanley Temple, a man whose dedication to coaching track and field has earned him recognition as Tennessee's most honored and accomplished track and field coach.

Born September 20, 1927 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Coach Temple was himself an all-state athlete in track, football and basketball. Temple graduated from Tennessee State University (TSU) in Nashville, Tennessee, earning both Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees. For forty-four years, he served as the head women's track coach at TSU and taught sociology.

During the 1950s and 1960s, Coach Temple's "Tigerbelles" dominated the sport of track and field, earning a total of 23 Olympic medals, 13 of them gold. Coach Temple's Tigerbelles won their first medal in the 1952 Olympic Games when fifteen-year-old Barbara Jones Slater became the youngest woman to win an Olympic gold medal in track and field. One of the most notable Tigerbelles, Wilma Rudolph, became the first female athlete to